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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS AND ALL OTHER SUBJECTS

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NATIONAL RELIEF

America is on its way—with a program for relief, and with billions of public money to spend for the purpose of restoring its citzens to jobs and bringing the country out of a hole.

Congress was in session for seven months, during which it passed the agricultural measure, the home building plan, the labor standards act, and the appropriation bills.

Notwithstanding the exhaustive hearings before the Senate Committee upon the subject of unemployment there has been little progress in that direction.

Instead of efforts being made to improve the affairs of our national industries, the records show that for months the heads of corporations have been under Government-directed fire. The small business men who were in Washington late last year continue to be the butt of ridicule, and that is absolutely unfair treatment to this class of business men. Business men contributed valuable suggestions, ideas and plans to end the depression. In the end all their effort came to naught. The government preferred to take over the whole job on it own account. So, everyone hopes for good results.

THE TRENDS OF BUSINESS

The various trends in industry are dissappointing. They do not indicate "which way" out of the depression. Contributing causes to the depresson have been too rapid increase in wages and too rapid shortening of hours in many key industries, is the belief of Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of General Motors, and principal spokeman for the automobile industry. He cites purchasing power and prices as having been thrown out of balance. "Superimposed upon this is the fact that there has been developing a growing lack of confidence and a fear as to the future opportunities of American business enterprise due to the attitude of the Government toward business, as well as to economic policies that have been enacted as affecting the national economy and penalizing the operating effectiveness of industry. Naturally, the sound remedy lies in the elimination of the causes." But, in explaining the situation, he concludes that "there certainly is nothing in the picture to warrant optimism so far as the immediate future of industry is concerned, or to establish any confidence as to an intelligent solution of our difficulties." The President's plan now goes on trial. Will it eliminate causes? Even those who doubt most, would be most pleased to see it succeed.

In case there is a pick-up by Labor Day as freely predicted in Washington, this month, everybody will be in a happier mood. It is, at least, a National hope and aspiration.

DRIVERS IN FATAL ACCIDENT RARELY PUNISHED IN COURT

In a report to Congress on a study of fatal highway accidents, the Bureau of Public Roads notes that of 905 drivers involved, only 28 served time in jail and only 95 paid fines. More than 86 percent were not penalized by the courts in any way.

Records from four States accounted for 614 of these cases. Motor-vehicle departments in these States reported their action following the fatal accidents. Only 11.5 percent of the divers escaped the forfeiture—for at least a short period—of their rights to drive, and driving privileges of one-third were either suspended for 6 months or more, or revoked entirely.

This comparsion was one part of the study of motor-vehicle traffic conditions which Congress asked the Bureau to make. Although the report says that analysis of the case histories "creates a very definite impression that the penalties imposed by the courts are seldom in reasonable proportion to the offense," it definitely does not find fault with the courts. "Rather," say the report "the failure to inflict proper punishment is due to the difficulty of obtaining evidence, admissible to court under the rules of evidence, sufficient to convict and also, perhaps, to the lack of a criminal code designed to fit present-day motor-vehicle-accidents cases.

"Motor-vehicles departments, unhampered by the rules of evidence, and actually existing because of the problems of present-day traffic, can at least take positive action that courts so frequently find possible."

DOMINATED BY POLITICS

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., July 12—Politics is the game for politicians—like golf for golfers. The indications are that about nine-tenths of the total membership of the House and Senate have played the game for many weeks. From now on politicians will show off their curves throughout the width and beadth of the land. Politics is fn fact, a streamlined are. The 1938 elections should give the voters fresh ideas about the way it is played.

In Washngton the question is not so much what party should win the elections—but what candidates should win. Most of them do not have very strong claims upon their constitutents—but some of them do not seem to all belong to the same political parties. Therefore it isn't up to washington leaders to tell the voters of any State how to pick or reject, their candidates. Rather, as the elder LaFollette used to say "it is time to search men's hearts."

The Nation has been dominated by politics to the point where statesmanship has become a rare accomplishment.

* * *

National Income As A Weathercock

For every ten billion dollar increase in the national income, the consumption of motor cars increase, on the average, at a uniform rate of approximately 36 percent, says General Motors in a statement just issued to stockholders. The national income is the weathercock! President Roosevelt told Congress in a message several months ago that it was possible for the national income to reach one hundred billion dollars, and that he said, would mean abundant prosperity. Unfortunately, the national income has been following the downward spiral. Motor cars, like all other machines and products, cannot be produced unless they are sold, and only to the extent that they can be sold. General Motors and the President seem to be in exact agreement about the influences of the national income upon manufacturing.

* * *

Watching Politics And Public Money

The moves to authorize committees of Congress to investigate politics and corruption in the relief program produced a good deal of controversy in the closing days of the session. Politics are bound to creep in—but politics are unpunishable.

It usually happens that whenever great sums of public money are spent that a lot of grafters find ways and means to cheat and steal. Therefore the Government will set-up machinery to keep close check on its spendings.

This seem to be a matter of responsibility belonging to the people of every community. It may be possible to catch some of the crooks. However, most officials in charge are undoubtedly honest and responsible persons. The Government of the United States is trying to protect itself and the public against all forms of dishonesty.

* * *

The Hour-Wage Bill

The measure to regulate wages and hours failed three times in Congress but finally came through on the fourth lap. The minimum wages and working hours per week are below standards in the North, and apparently not very objectionable in any other part of the country.

The bill that was passed was admittedly a compromise. It will mess up business, as every group will have to arrange its own programs along lines similar to NRA days.

Friends of the legislation seem to feel that they have made a beginning.

* * *

CIO Purges

With the approval of John L. Lewis, of CIO, the United Automobile Workers has been subject to a "purge" by Homer Martin, president of that organization. He suspended most of the top ranking officers of the big automobile union.

Months ago Martin took a stand against the continuance of irresponsible labor strikers and he made efforts to live up to his bargains with the automobile manufactures. The riotous followers kept breaking away from his leadership. This led to the drastic action related above.

Cupid introduces more house bills than all our Congressmen.

YOUR OLD-AGE INSURANCE

How Employers Aid Their Employees

Baltimore, July 5— The employer's share in the old-age insurance program begins with task of seeing that social security account number of each wage-earner is reported to him, so that the employee's account number may be recorded, with his wages, on the company's books.

Since the amount of old-age insurance which any eligible worker will receive depends on the amount of his wages, a record must be kept of those wages.

Wage reports are submitted at regular intervals by the employer to the Bureau of Internal Revenue. After these reports are cheacked, they are used by the Social Security Board to enter the wages (as reported thereon) in the worker's social security account.

Lump-sum payments are made to workers who reach the age of 65 and meet some, but not all, the qualifications for monthly benefits. Workers who reach age 65 and receive lump-sum payments of old-age insurance are not required to give up their regular jobs in covered employment. Death payments are made to the estates of insured workers who die before receiving payment. In either case the lump-sum payment amounts to 3½ percent of the worker's total wages since 1936, from jobs that come under the law.

Employers may aid in the prompt payment of benefits to their employees by advising the Social Security Board when an employee reaches the age of 65 or when one dies. Under Treasury Regulations, the employer files, with the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Form SS-3, within 15 days after the time, fill out Form OAC-1001—"Employer's Statement of Wages"—and send it to the nearest Social Security Board field office, he will expedite action on the employee's claim.

CAUTION AGAINST QUICK STOPS

Warning of a highway menace which apparently is greater this summer than ever before, the Keystone Automobile Club yesterday issued a bulletin cautioning motorists against "quick stops" when vendors offer their wares along the highways.

"Highway vendors have become a real problem," said J. Maxwell Smith, General Manager of the Club. "The roads of the State are literally lined with them, especially on Sundays and other heavy traffic periods, and while they have a legal right to offer their wares so long as they do not stand on the highway, their presence is dangerous because of the unpredictable conduct of drivers in response to the waving of a bunch of plump asparagus, or in obedience to a sudden 'stop' order from the back seat.

"In a recent trip of 300 miles we witnessed many narrow escapes when cars traveling at the legal maximum speed suddenly decelerated and came to a full stop on the highway, without adequate warning to cars traveling in the rear. The danger is greatest on two-lane roads, where there is no opportunity for following vehicles to pass quick-stopped cars, with traffic coming from the opposite direction.

"We believe motorists should exercise more good sense in making their stops. A safe practice is not to patronize any wayside vendor unless there is room for parking off the paved section of highway. Vendors who set up stands close to the highway where parking is not available are contributing to road perils."

EXPERIMENTS IN RURAL AMERICA

The farms and fields are producing abundantly this season.

"Control" by the Government is challenged by surpluses and fluctuating prices in the markets—prices that are nevertheless too low.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has followed a steady course since he undertook the Herculean task of regulating the affairs of the good earth. But, the "farmers' dollar" has showed increased strength and discouraged farmers throughout the Nation are now more optimistic than the industrialists.

A great experiment is being carried on, and many elements of success have been demonstrated. Further developments and progress are of foremost importance—now being followed by an interested public that watches the development of rural America.

THE RAILROAD MUDDLE

Most of the trouble with the railroads s a lack of business. The working forces have been dropped off by hundreds in recent years.

The Government has been playing banker to the railroads since the old railroad racket of watering its stocks played out.

Now the Railroads want to raise their rates which the Government cut to the bone on the theory that cheaper rates would create more business. The Interstate Commerce Commission scheme hasn't been a success.

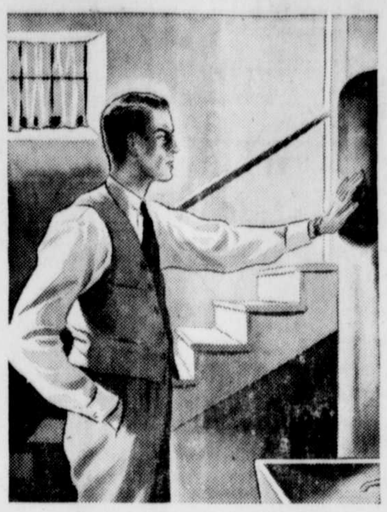
The roads want to cut wages. And that won't go over, either.

The roads want to borrow money freely from the Government, but I. O. C. blocks things again.

Things aren't like they used to be when a rail Tycoon observed that "the people be damned". The people seem to be the observers to whom it looks as though railroads are apparently damned—and don't know the way out of their jams.

Quit Being a Tank Watchman!

Heat Your Water Electrically



If you spend one speck of time coaxing or patting a tank . . . or waiting around for hot water, you're a member of the "tank watchman" lodge. And it's certainly no social outfit. Why not resign forever?

NEW TRIAL-PURCHASE PLAN . . . Here's the password for complete resignation from all hot water worries. Use an Electric Water Heater. And under our new Trial-Purchase Plan, you can actually try one in your home. Ask for full details! And remember, on our special low off-peak rate, it costs only 1¼c per kilowatt-hour to heat water electrically! (Minimum monthly bill $1.00.)

Conowingo Power Company

Electricity—Cheaper in Quantity

JAPANESE ATROSITIES IN CHINA

Prepared by
Lucy Meacham Thruston

In a package of communications just received from Geneva comes the following: We quote from the letter of a friend living in China: Let us write a few sentences describing the horrible picture, not in hatred of Japan, (for I myself took a group of Chinese to Japan in the interest of goodwill a few years ago), but in love of truth and pity for what this military invasion is bringing on both the people of China and Japan.

The Japanese bombers have bombed and are almost daily bombing hundreds of civilians to death—whole cities are being looted. After days of slaughter, looting and rape, they "restore order", and say the "disorder" which they themselves caused, was created by the retreating armies. Surrendered soldiers are shot down in cold blood. At times they are used for bayonet practice. Some of these soldiers had surrendered their arms at the advice of foreigners who believed sincerely that the Japanese military would respect international law as to surrendered soldiers. Surrendered soldiers have been tied together and burned alive...The last blanket is often taken from refugees... Now hundreds of villages are being burned down in the Peiping and Hankow areas to subdue the ever increasing and ever-widening determination to resist the invasion by guerrilla warfare... Crowds of women in one city knelt down to implore the military to save their surrendered troops from torture and death and their daughters from a hell worse than death. These prayers were not heeded, but pictures were taken of the kneeling and sent to Japan as evidence of thankfulness of the Chinese women to the Japanese for saving China. In Peiping the Chinese school children must each write a letter to a Japanese soldier to thank him for saving China from communism. These are sent to Japan to keep up the morale of the parents.

Not only is China suffering from the horrors of an unusually atrocious invasion, but in "occupied territory" the Christian leadership and the men who made such a good start in creating a new progressive, social-minded China are everywhere eliminated. Many of the crowd of opium-rich traitors and grafters take their places.....

I wonder if in America we can be golden-rule Christians enough to feel how Chinese feel when they see American iron sold to Japan, when the iron and nickel in the form of bullets and bombs destroy them by the thousands and they see the Christian peace movement limit its efforts to confessing our share of the guilt. If we cannot right our past wrongs, can we not at least preven worse ones in this, our generation.

Even now suffering China does not ask us to help by shedding our blood, but she does ask us that we give positive moral support....and that at least we put an effective embargo on war materials to Japan.

Training is the important thing. Weeds make a very satisfactory lawn if they are kept trimmed.

COLORA

Miss Olive Ewing, Baltimore, spent several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. Albert Ewing.

Mrs. Delia McVey was a visitor at he home of Mrs. William Fulton, Oxford, Thursday the past week.

Philip Kelpel, of Port Deposit, visited Mr. and Mrs. Robert Muldon for a few days.

Mrs. Russell McVey, Mr. and Mrs Cullen and son, of Chester, were callers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter O. McVey.

Mr. and Mrs. Street E. Riley, Jr., and little son, Ronald were with Quarryville relatives Sunday.

Mt. Pleasant M. E. Sunday School expect to go to White Crystal Beach next Wednesday the 20th, for their annual picnic.

The Ladies Missionary Society of West Nottingham Church will be entertained Thursday afternoon, July 21st at the home of Mrs. T. L. Hite.

Devotional, Mrs. Frank Reynolds; review and Outlook, Miss Bertha Lyson; Rapid Changes, Mrs. T. P. McKee.

The festival held by the Ladies of Mt. Pleasant M. E. Church last Thursday evening netted the church $30.00.

Home Coming Day will be observed at Mt. Plaseant M. E. Church Sunday, August 21st.

The Raymond Carter's have returned from their visit with relatives at Bluefield, West Virginia.

Mrs. Street E. Riley, Sr., and sister Mrs. R. F. Pierce spent the fourth with the S. W. Fitzgerald, family.

George Roney, of Oxford, is now operating the Bricker Bakery truck through this section.

BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

Elkton, Md.

Editor of Midland Journal,
Rising Sun, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

We note in your last issue of the Midland Journal in an article objecting to the granting of a Beer License to Rose Coyle the statement that a license was refused to the above person in the Ninth District, and also that there was an objection based on the nearness of the Calvert High School. This statement is entirely incorrect as Mrs. Coyle was not refused a license and the question of the nearness of the Calvert School was not brought up.

We do not object to criticism of our actions, so long as the criticisms are based on truth, and represent an honest opinion, but we do object to misrepresentations such as the above.

Very truly yours,
Board of License Com.
by: Mauldin Lum,
chairman.

Volume Sixty

With the present issue of The Midland Journal, this newspaper attains another birthday, the sixtieth. Established by Wm. G. Pennington, the greater portion of the time the name Ewing has appeared at the masthead—father and sons—it having been taken over in 1885 by the late E. E. Ewing, who passed on in 1901, since which time the sons have carried on.

WOODLAWN

There will be a festival on the Church House lawn, Wednesday evening, the 20th. The Young Girls, "Cheerful Workers," are having it. The teacher is Rev. S. T. Hamblin.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Rankin, of Ephrata, Pa., spent the week-end of 25th with Mrs. Rankin's sister, Mrs. William Rea and family.

Mrs. Jesse Williams, who spent the past month visiting her children, returned home Sunday, accompained by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Kearney of Wa Wa, Pa., also Mr. and Mrs. William Lampent and children of Media, Pa.

Mrs. Harry Williams and daughter Hazel, who are spending the Summer at Hances' Point, drove over Sunday to see her mother-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Rutter returned Sunday from a few days' visit in Wilmington.

Miss Bruna Abrahams left Saturday, on a motor trip to Minneapolis, Minnasota.

Mrs. Robert McKay had as her dinner guests Friday evening, Miss Beulah Gisriel, of Elkridge, Md.; Miss Mari Simmers, Perry Point; Miss Myrna McMullun, of Perryville and Miss Virginia Barnes.

Mrs. Guy Kirk, spent a few days this week with her parents at Joppa, Maryland.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hansen accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Maxwell, Catherine and Jimmy, of Winterthur, Del., to Boonsboro, Md., Sunday, to visit their friends, the Palmers, who recently moved there from Oakland, Iowa, the home town of the Hansens.

Mr. and Mrs. John Astle had a dinner Sunday evening, in honor of Mrs. Astle's father, Mr. John H. Thompson's 77th birthday. He resides at Zion. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Milton Smith, Betty, and Frank Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Gibson, of North East; Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Thompson, of Zion.

Mr. Hobart Dehart is a patient at Union Memorial, Baltimore.

Joseph McMullen returned home, Monday, from Union Hospital, Elkton, where he had been for two weeks, following an operation.

Mrs. Cobourn Will Run For State Senate

Mrs. Katherine Cobourn, of Perryville, widow of State Senator Harold E. Cobourn, plans to run for State Senator in her husband's place. Mrs. Cobourn will officially file for the office this week.

Mrs. Cobourn said that friends from all parts of Cecil County had urged her to make the run. She will conduct an active campaign and champion the same measures advocated by her late husband.

She will be opposed for the Democratic nomination by Mr. Fred Leffler, editor of the Cecil Democrat, Elkton.

C. Austin Leithiser, of Havre de Grace, employed as electrician at Perry Point Hospital, had his hand badly crushed on Thursday, while working on an automatic elevator in Ward 12.

He was alone at the time and in some manner his right hand was caught in the mechanism and badly crushed. One finger was terribly lacerated and it was found necessary to amputate it.